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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Junichi Muramatsu, et al. **Examiner:** Glenn K. Dawson
Serial No: 10/067,607 **Art Unit:** 3731
Filed: February 5, 2002 **Docket:** 15248
For: APPARATUS FOR LIGATING LIVING TISSUES **Dated:** July 28, 2006
Conf. No.: 5886

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.114

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated March 31, 2006, Applicants have filed a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) herewith along with the present Amendment. Applicants respectfully request that, prior to continued examination, the above-identified application be amended as follows:

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to facsimile number 571-273-8300 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Dated: July 28, 2006


Thomas Spinelli

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